GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:189
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2011
DECLINE IN SEX RATIO
Biju Shri P. K.;Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the 2011 Census, sex ratio is on the decline in the country, especially in the tribal regions;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year and the reasons therefor alongwith the present sex ratio in the rural and the urban areas in the country, State/UT-wise;

(c) the number of cases reported for violation of Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misus

(e) Act, 1994 from various State/Union Territory during the last three years and the current year State/UT-wise; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to make the law more effective and improve the sex ratio in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 189 FOR 12TH AUGUST, 2011

(a) No, Madam, as per the 2011 Census (provisional), the sex ratio has increased from 933 in 2001 to 940 in 2011. However, the child sex ratio (0-6 years) has shown a decline from 927 in 2001 to 914 in 2011.

(b) Census Operations in the country are undertaken every ten years and not annually. Sex ratio as per 2001 and 2011 census respectively in both rural and urban areas is at Annexure A. Child sex ratio (0-6 years) as per Census 2001 & 2011 is at Annexure B.

(c) The number of cases reported for violations of Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994 during last three years and in the current year are at Annexure C.

(d) The Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994, is a comprehensive legislation enacted by Government of India on September 20, 1994 and was further amended in 2003. The Act provides for the prohibition of sex selection, before and after conception, and for regulation of prenatal diagnostic techniques.

Steps have been taken by the Government to strengthen effective implementation of the Act. These include amendment to Rule 11(2) of the PC & PNDT Rules 1996, to confiscate unregistered machines and punishment against unregistered clinics, reconstitution of National Inspection & Monitoring Committee (NIMC) to undertake random field inspections of facilities offering ultrasound services and awareness generation through non-governmental organizations.